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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

van der Steen et al.

Serial No.: 10/790,618

Filed: March 1, 2004

For: THREE-DIMENSIONAL TISSUE
HARDNESS IMAGING

Confirmation No.: 8842

Examiner: B. Szmal

Group Art Unit: 3736

Attorney Docket No.: 2183-6375US

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence along with any attachments referred to or identified as being attached or enclosed is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail on the date of deposit shown below with sufficient postage and in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

May 18, 2006
Date

Signature

Aubry Blackburn

Aubry Blackburn

Name (Type/Print)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty to disclose information material to patentability pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of any cited foreign patents, publications, or pending unpublished U.S. applications are enclosed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2).

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Serial No.: 10/790,618

U.S. Patent Documents

| <u>U.S. Patent No.</u> | <u>Publication Date</u> | <u>Patentee</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| US - 5,307,816 | 05-03-1994 | Hashimoto et al. |

Foreign Patent Documents

| <u>Document No.</u> | <u>Publication Date</u> | <u>Patentee</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| WO 03/017845 | 03/06/2003 | Technologiestichting STW |

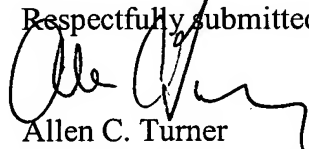
Other Documents

PCT International Preliminary Examination Report, PCT/NL02/00572, dated July 22, 2003.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

The fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attorney for Applicant(s)
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Date: May 18, 2006
ACT/alb

Enclosures: Form PTO/SB/08
Cited Documents

Document in ProLaw

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

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Attorney Docket Number

Complete if Known

Application Number

10/790,618

Filing Date

March 1, 2004

First Named Inventor

van der Steen et al.

Group Art Unit

3736

Examiner Name

B. Szmal

Attorney Docket Number

2183-6375US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

**Examiner
Signature**

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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|------------------------|----------------------|
| Application Number | 10/790,618 |
| Filing Date | March 1, 2004 |
| First Named Inventor | van der Steen et al. |
| Group Art Unit | 3736 |
| Examiner Name | B. Szmaj |
| Attorney Docket Number | 2183-6375US |

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SignatureDate
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